

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed May 17, 2006 has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1-15 are now pending in this application. Claims 1-15 stand rejected.

The objection to Claim 1 due to an informality is respectfully traversed in view of the above amendment. Claim 1 has been amended as suggested by the Examiner at paragraph 1 of the Office Action. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the objection to Claim 1 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 1, 2 and 4-6 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,499,227 to Jacobson (hereinafter referred to as "Jacobson") is respectfully traversed.

Jacobson describes an accessory 10 that attaches to a golf cart 15 via a securing strap 35 that is wrapped around a pole 20 of golf cart 15. Specifically, a second end 32 of securing strap 35 wraps around pole 20 and is pulled through a latch 70 to secure strap 35 against pole 20. A first end 34 of securing strap 35 extends a distance outwardly from pole 20 and away from golf cart 15. A card 40 is coupled to and suspended from the portion of securing strap 35 extending outwardly from pole 20. Card 40 includes a glove attachment device 50 for securing the glove thereto to facilitate drying the glove.

Claim 1 recites a golf cart comprising "a support having at least one external surface; and an apparatus for coupling a glove to said support, said apparatus comprising a body substantially concentrically aligned with said support, said body comprising an inner surface and an outer surface, said body coupled to said golf cart such that said inner surface remains in substantial contact against said at least one external surface during operation of said golf cart, said body comprising at least one first fastening mechanism coupled to said body inner surface, said at least one first fastening mechanism coupling said body to said support, said body outer surface comprising at least one second fastening mechanism for removably coupling the glove directly to said body such that the glove remains coupled to said apparatus during operation of said golf cart."

Jacobson does not describe or suggest a support having at least one external surface and an apparatus for coupling a glove to the support, wherein the apparatus includes a body substantially concentrically aligned with the support, as required by Applicant's claimed invention. Further, Jacobson does not describe or suggest a body outer surface comprising at least one second fastening mechanism for removably coupling the glove directly to the body, as required by Applicant's claimed invention. Rather, in contrast to the present invention, Jacobson describes a card that is coupled to and suspended from a securing strap extending outwardly from a golf cart pole such that a glove is fitted about the card for securing the glove thereto to facilitate drying the glove.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 1 is submitted to be patentable over Jacobson.

Claims 2 and 4-6 depend from independent Claim 1. When the recitations of Claims 2 and 4-6 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicant submits that dependent Claims 2 and 4-6 likewise are patentable over Jacobson.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully requests that the Section 102 rejection of Claims 1, 2, and 4-6 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,983,518 to Ellenburg (hereinafter referred to as "Ellenburg") is respectfully traversed.

Ellenburg describes a golf glove dryer 10 that attaches to a golf cart. Golf glove dryer 10 includes a hollow shell 12 having a first open end 14 and a second open end 16. First end 14 attaches to a shaft 19 that extends outwardly from a clamp 20 for a distance. Clamp 20 is coupled to a roof support 32 of the golf cart such that hollow shell 12 is positioned exterior to the golf cart. Glove 36 is positioned over second end 16 and glove wrist fastener 38 is secured to glove wrist portion 40 thereby securing glove 36 around hollow shell 12. Cross members 18 hold glove 36 in an open position, allowing air flow through hollow shell 12 into glove 36.

Claim 1 recites a golf cart comprising "a support having at least one external surface; and an apparatus for coupling a glove to said support, said apparatus comprising a body substantially concentrically aligned with said support, said body comprising an inner surface

and an outer surface, said body coupled to said golf cart such that said inner surface remains in substantial contact against said at least one external surface during operation of said golf cart, said body comprising at least one first fastening mechanism coupled to said body inner surface, said at least one first fastening mechanism coupling said body to said support, said body outer surface comprising at least one second fastening mechanism for removably coupling the glove directly to said body such that the glove remains coupled to said apparatus during operation of said golf cart.”

Ellenburg does not describe or suggest a support having at least one external surface and an apparatus for coupling a glove to the support, wherein the apparatus includes a body substantially concentrically aligned with the support, as required by Applicant’s claimed invention. Further, Ellenburg does not describe or suggest a body outer surface comprising at least one second fastening mechanism for removably coupling the glove directly to said body, as required by Applicant’s claimed invention. Rather, in contrast to the present invention, Ellenburg describes a golf glove dryer that includes a hollow shell that is attached to a clamp having a shaft. The hollow shell extends outwardly from the clamp for a distance and the glove is positioned over the hollow shell and secured around the hollow shell.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 1 is submitted to be patentable over Ellenburg.

Claims 2-6 depend from independent Claim 1. When the recitations of Claims 2-6 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicant submits that dependent Claims 2-6 likewise are patentable over Ellenburg.

Claim 7 recites a golf cart comprising “... and a glove drying system ..., said body outer surface comprises at least one fastening mechanism for removably coupling an outer surface of a glove directly to said system such that the glove remains coupled to said fastening mechanism between said first end and said second end during operation of said golf cart.”

Ellenburg does not describe or suggest a body outer surface comprising at least one fastening mechanism for removably coupling an outer surface of a glove directly to said system, as required by Applicant’s claimed invention. Rather, in contrast to the present invention, Ellenburg describes a golf glove dryer that includes a hollow shell that is attached

to a clamp having a shaft. The hollow shell extends outwardly from the clamp for a distance and the glove is positioned over the hollow shell and secured around the hollow shell.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 7 is submitted to be patentable over Ellenburg.

Claims 8-12 depend from independent Claim 7. When the recitations of Claims 2-8-12 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 7, Applicant submits that dependent Claims 8-12 likewise are patentable over Ellenburg.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully requests that the Section 102 rejection of Claims 1-12 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Publication No. 2002/0138953 to Passafiume (hereinafter referred to as “Passafiume”) is respectfully traversed.

Passafiume describes a golf glove holder 10 adapted to be mounted to a golf cart frame member 12. Golf glove holder 10 includes a main body 30 and an attachment member 50 affixed to main body 30 for attachment of golf glove holder 10 to golf cart body frame member 12. Main body 30 of golf glove holder 10 is preferably cylindrical and includes a golf glove holder at one end of main body 30. The golf glove holder is configured to releasably hold an interior wrist sweat band of a golf glove 20 about main body 30 such that air flowing through main body 30 is directed into glove 20. Preferably, the golf glove holder comprises a strip 32 of nylon hook material adhesively affixed to an outer circumference of one end of main body 30. Strip 32 is adapted to releasably hold the golf glove wrist sweat band. Attachment member 50 is affixed to main body 30 and includes a clamp portion 52 for attachment to frame member 12. Preferably, clamp portion 52 is C-shaped in cross-section with flexible extending arms 56 and 58 adapted to wrap around a portion of frame member 12. An adjustable strap 64 extends between arms 56 and 58 to force the arms against frame member 12 thereby securing golf glove holder 10 to frame member 12.

Claim 1 recites a golf cart comprising “a support having at least one external surface; and an apparatus for coupling a glove to said support, said apparatus comprising a body substantially concentrically aligned with said support, said body comprising an inner surface and an outer surface, said body coupled to said golf cart such that said inner surface remains

in substantial contact against said at least one external surface during operation of said golf cart, said body comprising at least one first fastening mechanism coupled to said body inner surface, said at least one first fastening mechanism coupling said body to said support, said body outer surface comprising at least one second fastening mechanism for removably coupling the glove directly to said body such that the glove remains coupled to said apparatus during operation of said golf cart.”

Passafiume does not describe or suggest a support having at least one external surface and an apparatus for coupling a glove to the support, wherein the apparatus includes a body substantially concentrically aligned with the support, as required by Applicant’s claimed invention. Further, Passafiume does not describe or suggest a body outer surface comprising at least one second fastening mechanism for removably coupling the glove directly to said body, as required by Applicant’s claimed invention. Rather, in contrast to the present invention, Passafiume describes a golf glove holder that is configured to releasably hold an interior wrist sweat band of a golf glove around a main body that is coupled to and extends outwardly from an attachment member affixed to a golf cart.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 1 is submitted to be patentable over Passafiume.

Claims 2-6 depend from independent Claim 1. When the recitations of Claims 2-6 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicant submits that dependent Claims 2-6 likewise are patentable over Passafiume.

Claim 7 recites a golf cart comprising “... and a glove drying system ..., said body outer surface comprises at least one fastening mechanism for removably coupling an outer surface of a glove directly to said system such that the glove remains coupled to said fastening mechanism between said first end and said second end during operation of said golf cart.”

Passafiume does not describe or suggest a body outer surface comprising at least one fastening mechanism for removably coupling an outer surface of a glove directly to said system, as required by Applicant’s claimed invention. Rather, in contrast to the present invention, Passafiume describes a golf glove holder that is configured to releasably hold an interior wrist sweat band of a golf glove along at least a portion of an outer circumference of a main body.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 7 is submitted to be patentable over Passafiume.

Claims 8-12 depend from independent Claim 7. When the recitations of Claims 8-12 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 7, Applicant submits that dependent Claims 8-12 likewise are patentable over Passafiume.

Claim 13 recites a method of drying a damp golf glove, said method comprising "...; and removably coupling an outer surface of a golf glove to the golf cart using at least one third fastening mechanism extending from the body outer surface, such that the golf glove remains suspended from the golf glove drying system between the first end and the second end during operation of the golf cart."

Passafiume does not describe or suggest removably coupling an outer surface of a golf glove to the golf cart using at least one third fastening mechanism extending from the body outer surface, as required by Applicant's claimed invention. Rather, in contrast to the present invention, Passafiume describes a golf glove holder that is configured to releasably hold an interior wrist sweat band of a golf glove along at least a portion of an outer circumference of a main body.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 13 is submitted to be patentable over Passafiume.

Claims 14 and 15 depend from independent Claim 13. When the recitations of Claims 14 and 15 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 13, Applicant submits that dependent Claims 14 and 15 likewise are patentable over Passafiume.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully requests that the Section 102 rejection of Claims 1-15 be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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